



MEASURE J RE-IMAGINE LA
Education Access and Youth Support Subcommittee

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

JOINED Meeting at 6:51 during a presentation

1. The Education and Youth Support Subcommittee was called to order by Mandie Dixon and Anthony Robles at 6:06 p.m.
2. **Introduction and Grounding**
 - a. Miguel Perla introduced himself and Aparna Shah as meeting facilitators.
 - b. Aparna provided background on Measure J including the Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) foundational recommendations and the creation of the Anti-Racism Diversity and Inclusion (ARDI) initiative as well as Measure J's goal of healing the effects of systemic racism and mass incarceration.
 - c. Aparna presented the meeting agenda and discussed the following goals of the meeting
 - i. Share data and stories for focus area
 - ii. Set north star (big goal) for funding recommendations
 - iii. Begin to focus on the what (area of focus), the who (communities of focus) and the how (which programs and services should be used to solve the issues)
 - iv. Identify any more information needed to make informed recommendations
 - d. Aparna also reviewed the group agreements regarding meeting decorum.
3. **Subcommittee Orientation**
 - a. Each subcommittee will have 2 co-chairs, one a member of the Advisory Committee and one who was elected in the first subcommittee meeting
 - b. Anyone who attends the meeting is considered a member of the subcommittee
 - c. Subcommittee is a Brown act body
 - d. The functions of the subcommittee are:
 - i. Make recommendations to the Advisory Committee
 - ii. Identify programs and services that can be funded by Measure J that will support communities and people impacted by systemic racism
 - e. Miguel summarized responses from the brainstorming activity that occurred in the first subcommittee meeting including:
 - i. Invest in community members to do the work of building communities up
 - ii. Prioritize funding to zip codes/areas where youth are pushed out of school, and areas with high violence rates
 - iii. Access to youth development programs.

4. Data and Analysis Presentations

- a. Aparna shared the purpose of the presentations is to deepen understanding of subject area, to receive an overview of key data, challenges and opportunities within the focus area, and to identify ideas for possible funding recommendations.
- b. Youth Justice Presentation provided by Shimica Gaskins of the Children's Defense Fund and Taylor Schooley from the Youth Diversion and Development Unit.
 - i. Taylor began by sharing a background of what has already established in their research including:
 1. Most youth who come into contact with justice system will age out of criminal behavior without system involvement
 2. Justice involvement is negative health exposure for youth
 3. Even a first-time arrest disrupts young person's development and worsens chance of graduating high school
 - ii. Provided data around youth arrests and youth in juvenile halls and camps and discussed proposal to move to a new healing model of youth development
 - iii. Provided data on intersection between child welfare investigations and juvenile justice involvement
 - iv. Provided ideas to address inequities in youth justice system including:
 1. Prioritizing social justice approaches to core competencies of youth development
 2. Reducing the size and scope of the youth system through equitable decriminalization and diversion
 3. Connect youth to mentors who are credible messengers
- c. Following the presentation, the attendees were separated into breakout rooms to reflect and discuss the content of the presentation.
 - i. Co-chair added the guiding questions for the exercise:
 1. What insights do you take from the presentation and your lived experience to inform funding recommendations?
 2. What is the important story that the subcommittee needs to understand and tell?

5. Data presentation by Mike Russo and Elycia Mulholland Graves from the Advancement Project

- a. The Advancement Project uses data to promote systems change but recognizes that certain gaps in the data exist
- b. The presentation will cover racial equity trends in education and youth development in LA County
- c. Provided several areas of data including school connectedness in local youth and racial disparities, teacher quality and diversity as well as

- highlighting racial disparities in post-secondary opportunities and experiences.
 - d. Also discussed data around student homeless and systems impacted youth.
 - e. Mike also presented an introduction of the Justice Equity Need Index map which shows the inequities and needs of areas throughout LA County.
 - f. The subcommittee was broken into another breakout session to discuss the data presented.
 - g. Following the exercise, Aparna opened the floor for public comment. The following people made comments:
 - i. Kristian Huling
 - ii. Elida Ledesma
 - iii. Derek Steele
 - iv. Joel Garcia
 - v. Luis Vasquez
- 6. Maricela Ramirez from Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) provided a data presentation.**
- a. Provided background on LACOE including that LACOE supports the school districts within LA County
 - b. Shared data including public school enrollment in the County separated by race and ethnicity, suspension rates, and graduation rates and highlighted racial disparities.
 - c. Also reviewed enrollment rates and academic progress rates in juvenile halls and youth camps
 - d. Following the data, LACOE provided some of its programs to address disparities including:
 - i. Implicit bias trainings
 - ii. Academic tutoring
 - iii. Foster youth services,
 - iv. Homeless education counselors
 - v. Community Schools initiative
 - e. Following this presentation, the co-chairs extended the meeting ten minutes to 8:40 p.m.
- 7. Setting Direction for Measure J Funding Recommendations**
- a. Miguel led the subcommittee into another breakout session prompted by two questions:
 - i. Who are the most impacted groups in the subcommittee area that we should focus Measure J funds on for this year?
 - ii. What are the inequalities and disparities in the focus area?
 - b. After the breakout, Miguel shared some of the group's responses.

8. Public Comment

- a. Aparna opened the meeting for public comment. The following people provided comment:
 - i. Tabitha Jones Jolivet
 - ii. Michael De La Cuadra
 - iii. Kristian Huling
 - iv. Victoria G
 - v. Nicole Brown

9. Adjournment

Adjournment for the Measure J Re-Imagine LA Education and Youth Support Subcommittee of Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned by co-chairs Mandie Dixon and Anthony Robles.